promote India as a perferred destination in the overseas markets. These include advertising in the print and electronic media, outdoor advertising at prominent locations, on trains, buses and taxis, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organizing seminars, workshops and road shows, publication of brochures and collaterals, joint advertisement support familiarization tours of tour operators and travel media, etc.

Further, the Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance for development of infrastructure under its Scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development and promotion of tourism. During the Tenth Five Year Plan the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 2012.02 crore for 1160 projects to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations Tor promotion and development of tourism. In the current financial year Rs. 323 crore for 128 projects has been released to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for upgradation of infrastructure at tourist destinations.

(e) Yes, Sir. For the year 2007-08 the Ministry of Tourism has been allocated Rs. 953.00 crore.

Repair of bandh in Bihar

846. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Guabari marginal bandh was damaged in 2004 in Sikaran and Pakridayal subdivisions of East Champaran (Bihar) and whether the bandh has not yet been repaired thereby causing loss of crores of rupees to the people;

(b) by when the bandh will be repaired; and

(c) whether any compensation and relief was given to the people and if so, at what rate and to whom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir, there was a breach in the abandoned marginal bandh of Goabari weir on Lalbakeya river in 2004. It has not been closed as yet.

(b) The breach is scheduled to be closed before flood of 2008.

(c) No information is available in this regard.

Water shortage in the country

1847. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by streamlining the water management in the country, the water shortage could be overcome;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether river inter-linking project can play a major role in water management; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the names of such rivers which have been selected for river inter-linking till now?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi